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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/779943 Confirmation No. 9354  
Applicant : Nobuyuki Tatsumi  
Filed : February 17, 2004  
TC/A.U. : 1743  
Examiner : N/A  
  
Title : AUTOMATIC SAMPLER AND METHOD FOR RINSING  
NEEDLE OF THE SAME  
Docket No. : NGB-15306  
Customer No. : 040854

**STATUS INQUIRY**  
**(SECOND REQUEST)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Applicant respectfully inquires as to the status of the above-identified application.  
The application was filed February 17, 2004, and applicant's attorney has not received  
an Examiner's communication from the Patent Office since that filing date.

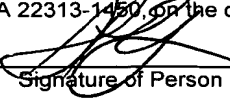
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal  
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2/14/2006 David E. Spaw  
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